



# Beachie Creek Incident Decision

Published  
09/03/20 17:43

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# 1. Decision

## 1.1. Decision Summary

### Decision Information

NAME	VALUE
Published	09/03/2020 17:43 CDT
Estimated Cost	\$10,000,000
Incident Owner (s)	Chris Donaldson, Katherine Reed, Lyn Medley
Editor(s)	brandon coville, Brandon McGilvray, Chris Mushrush, Duane Bishop, David Warnack, edward hiatt, Molly Juillerat, Robert Gentry
Reviewer(s)	
Approver(s)	Duane Bishop
Natl Preparedness Level	5

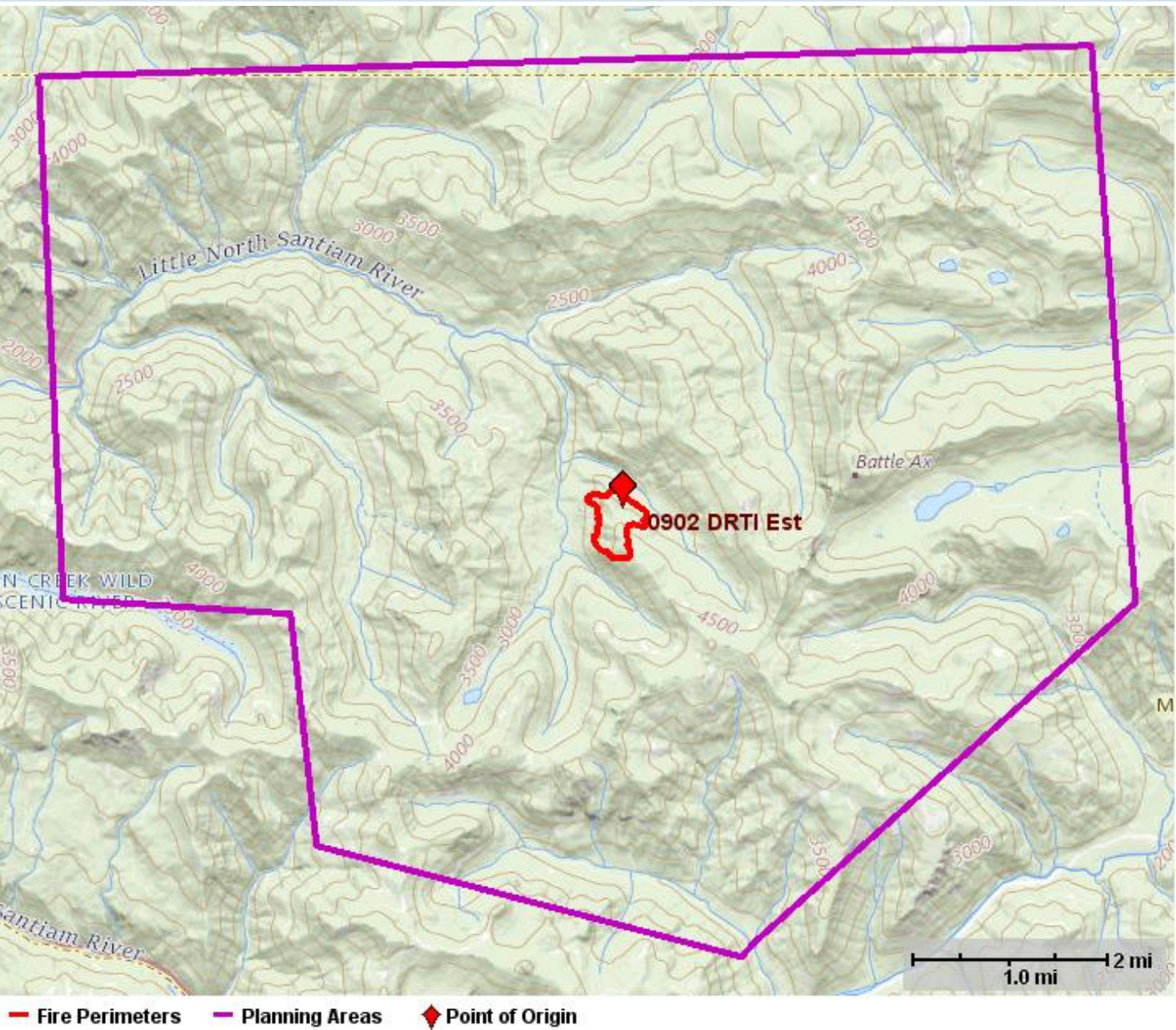
### Decision History

Editor Name	Action	Date (CDT)	Comment
Bishop, Duane	Published	09/03/2020 17:43	
Bishop, Duane	Approved	09/03/2020 17:43	
Medley, Lyn	Review Requested	09/03/2020 17:33	
Medley, Lyn	Review Requested	09/03/2020 17:33	
Medley, Lyn	Created	08/30/2020 13:33	

## 1.2. Incident Information

### Incident Information

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Unique Fire Identifier	2020-ORWIF-200299
Responsible Unit Name	Willamette National Forest
FireCode	NFN5
P-Code	P6NFN5
Point of Origin	44.82111N / 122.188 W
Incident Size	150acres
Latest WFDSS Perimeter Size	157acres
Incident Cause	Unknown
Incident Type	Wildfire
Incident Discovery	08/16/2020 11:18
Contained	
Controlled	
Out	
Jurisdictional Unit	ORWIF - Willamette National Forest
Jurisdictional Agency(s)	USFS
Geographic Area (prep level)	Northwest (4)
Owner Name(s)	Chris Donaldson, Katherine Reed, Lyn Medley



## 1.3. Weather

### Fire Weather Zone Forecast

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379  
FNUS56 KPQR 031356  
FWFPQR  
Fire Weather Planning Forecast for NW Oregon and SW Washington  
National Weather Service Portland OR  
656 AM PDT Thu Sep 3 2020  
...VERY WARM AND DRY AGAIN TODAY...  
...NOT AS WARM WITH SOME IMPROVEMENT IN RH FRIDAY AND SATURDAY...  
...STRONG OFFSHORE WIND EVENT POSSIBLE EARLY NEXT WEEK...  
.BROADCAST DISCUSSION...Today will be another very warm and dry day across the district, with light to moderate north to northeast general winds. Winds will shift to southwesterly this afternoon and evening along the coast, then onshore flow will spread inland for cooler temperatures and higher RH Friday and Saturday. It is looking increasingly likely that a significant offshore wind event will occur sometime early next week, with breezy east winds and very dry conditions expected.  
.DISCUSSION...High pressure aloft and a very warm air mass will result in another very warm and dry day across most of the district today. Thermal low pressure sprawls across much of western Oregon this morning, with higher pressure remaining intact over Washington. This will drive breezy northeast winds across the Willapa Hills and our northern coastal zones through this afternoon, with moderate north-northeasterly winds elsewhere. Thermal low pressure will shift north and east this afternoon and evening, prompting a southerly wind reversal to spread northward along the Oregon and southern Washington coastline as today and tonight progress. This will allow a marine layer to spread northward along the coast, and onshore winds will eventually reach inland areas tonight and Friday. As a result, cooler temperatures and higher RH are anticipated throughout the forecast area by Friday, likely lingering into Saturday with the typical afternoon and evening northwest winds. West winds will be somewhat breezy through the Columbia Gorge Friday and Saturday as the cooler marine air attempts to push east through the Gorge. Despite this mention of a cooldown, temperatures will likely remain above early September normals - they just won't be as hot as today. After Saturday, forecast models continue to show quite a bit of variability in the exact conditions expected. However, the vast majority of forecast models continue to show some type of very warm, very dry, and potentially very breezy weather west of the Cascades early next week. This type of weather pattern can bring hot and dry conditions all the way to the ocean beaches, along with poor to non-existent overnight humidity recoveries for most of the forecast area as east to northeast winds persist. Weagle \$\$  
Haines Index values observed Thursday morning September 3  
Format: Combined Values (Stability Component + Moisture Component)  
Mid Elevation  
Salem...5 (2 + 3) Medford...5 (2 + 3)  
High Elevation  
Salem...5 (2 + 3) Medford...4 (2 + 2)  
\*\*\*Winds are 20-Foot 10 Minute Averages\*\*\*  
\*\*\*CWR-Chance of Wetting Rain 0.25 or greater\*\*\*  
\$\$  
ORZ608-041100-  
Willamette National Forest-  
656 AM PDT Thu Sep 3 2020  
.TODAY...  
\* Sky/Weather.....Sunny. Hazy with areas of smoke.  
\* Max Temperature.....90-100, except 80-90 ridges.  
\* Min Humidity.....12-20%.  
\* 20-Foot Winds.....  
\* Valleys/Lwr Slopes.....Upslope 2-6 mph.  
\* Ridges/Upr Slopes.....East 2-5 mph late in the morning becoming variable less than 5 mph.  
\* CWR.....0%.  
\* LAL.....1.  
\* Haines Index (High).....5 (moderate).  
\* Mixing Height.....6000 ft agl.  
\* Transport Winds.....Northeast 5 mph shifting to the northwest in the afternoon.  
.TONIGHT...  
\* Sky/Weather.....Clear. Hazy with areas of smoke.  
\* Min Temperature.....Around 60.  
\* Max Humidity.....60-75%, except 50-60% ridges.  
\* 20-Foot Winds.....  
\* Valleys/Lwr Slopes.....Drainage less than 5 mph.  
\* Ridges/Upr Slopes.....Northwest 3-5 mph early evening becoming variable less than 5 mph, then becoming east 2-5 mph after midnight.

## Fire Weather Zone Forecast

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\* CWR.....0%.  
\* LAL.....1.  
\* Haines Index (High).....5 (moderate).  
\* Mixing Height.....Near surface.  
\* Transport Winds.....North 10 mph shifting to the east after  
midnight.  
.FRIDAY...  
\* Sky/Weather.....Sunny. Hazy in the morning.  
\* Max Temperature.....85-90, except 80-85 ridges.  
\* Min Humidity.....20-30%.  
\* 20-Foot Winds.....  
\* Valleys/Lwr Slopes.....Upslope 2-6 mph becoming west 3-6 mph  
beginning late afternoon.  
\* Ridges/Upr Slopes.....Southeast 2-5 mph early morning becoming  
variable less than 5 mph, then becoming west 3-6 mph beginning  
late afternoon.  
\* CWR.....0%.  
\* LAL.....1.  
\* Haines Index (High).....4 (low).  
\* Mixing Height.....7000 ft agl.  
\* Transport Winds.....Southwest 10-15 mph.  
.Forecast days 3 through 7.....  
.FRIDAY EVENING...Clear. West winds around 6 mph early evening  
becoming drainage less than 5 mph.  
.SATURDAY...Mostly clear. Lows 55-60. Highs 75-85. West winds  
3-6 mph. Minimum humidity 25-35%.  
.SUNDAY...Clear. Lows 50-60. Highs 80-90. North winds 4-7 mph.  
Minimum humidity 10-20%.  
.LABOR DAY...Mostly clear. Lows 55-60. Highs 75-85. Northeast  
winds 5-8 mph. Minimum humidity 15-25%.  
.TUESDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY...Clear. Lows 55-65. Highs 80-90. East  
winds 7-12 mph with gusts up to 20 mph. Minimum humidity 15-25%.  
&&  
                  TEMPERATURE      /  
Pebble          94      58     88  /  15     61     27  
Fields          95      61     89  /  18     59     30  
Emigrant        99      63     94  /  15     51     24  
\$\$

## 1.4. Modeling

Near Term (NTFB 5day (0901-05) Spot Wx Winds MMA - Started on 09/01/20 12:00 ended on 09/05/20 18:00)

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### Near Term Fire Behavior Analysis Information

NAME	VALUE
Analysis Name NTFB 5day (0901-05) Spot Wx Winds MMA	

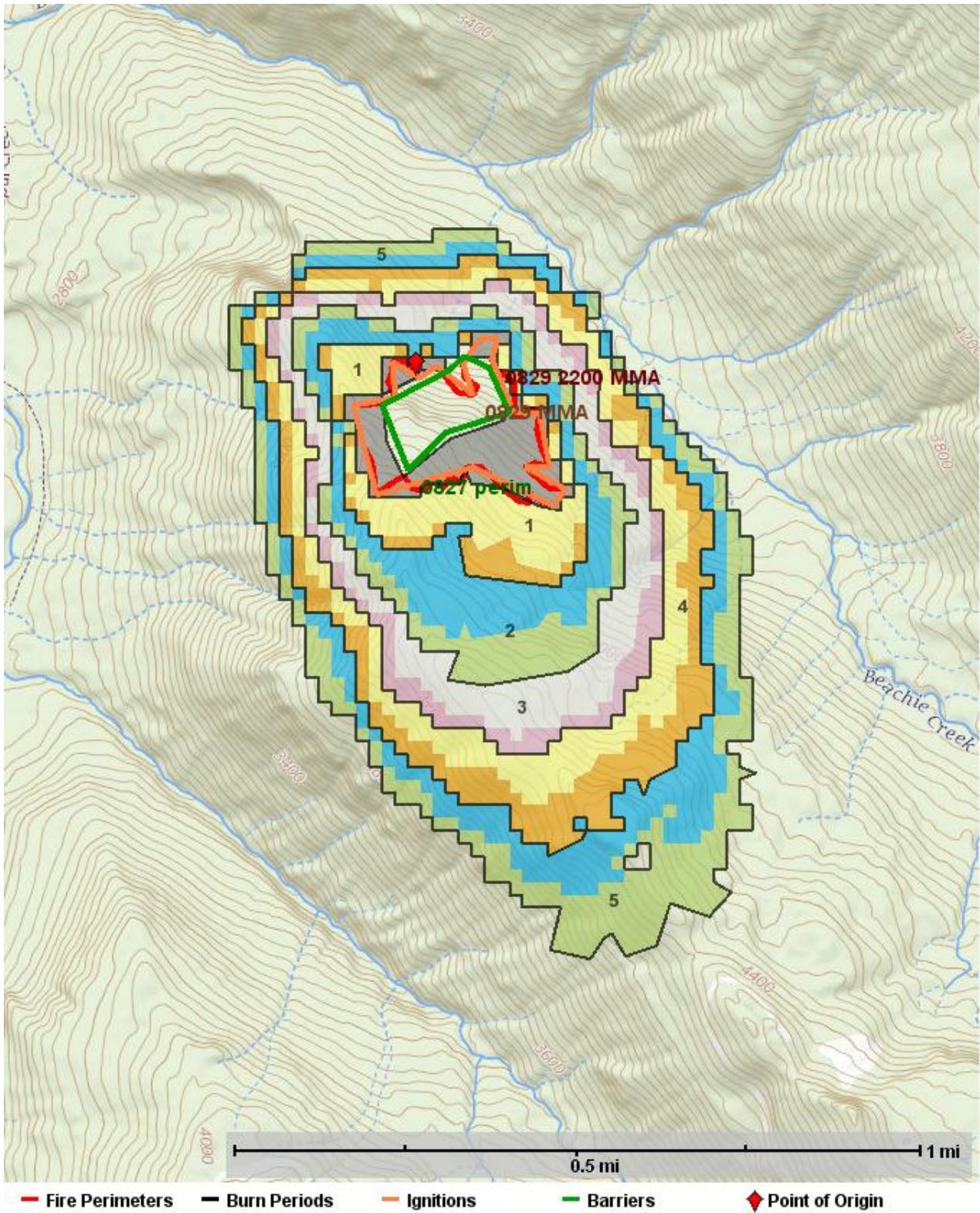
### Burn Periods

Date	Start Hour	End Hour	Acres
09/01/2020	12	16	30.7
09/02/2020	12	17	56
09/03/2020	12	17	60.1
09/04/2020	12	18	81.2
09/05/2020	12	18	92.4

Time (CDT)	User	Note
09/01/2020 19:02	Johnson, Mark	Here is the updated Near Term for Beachie Creek. Near Term uses forecasted weather for the hours of the burn period that are selected. I changed the winds to reflect what is predicted in the spot weather forecast. All modeling assumes no suppression actions are taken. The fires growth direction reflects to N/NW daytime and N/NE night time winds. There are no east winds predicted in the model time period. Fire growth over the 5 day period is 320acs.

[Near Term Analysis 'NTFB 5day \(0901-05\) Spot Wx Winds MMA'](#)





FSPPro (FSPPro 7Day (0902-0908) 3000 - Started on 09-02-2020)

FSPPro General Information	
NAME	VALUE
Analysis Name	FSPPro 7Day (0902-0908) 3000
Analysis Start	09/02/2020



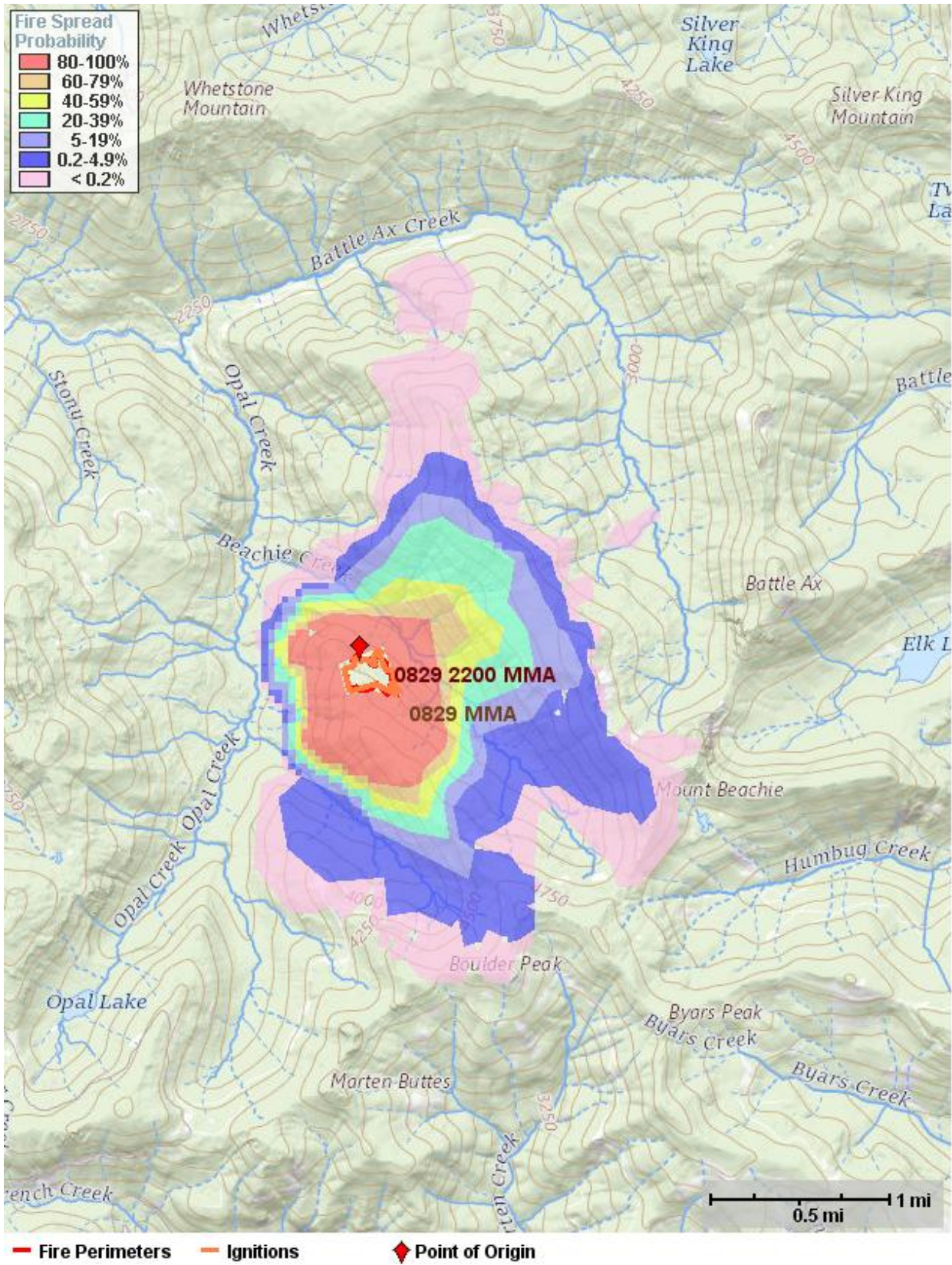
FSPPro General Information

Duration 7 days

Simulations 3000 fires

Time (CDT)	User	Note
09/01/2020 21:26	Johnson, Mark	Results from a 7day (0902-0908) of 3,000 fires. Perimeter of 8/30 used as ignition file and assumed 100% active. No barriers were created. Model assumes no suppression actions are taken.

[FSPPro Analysis 'FSPPro 7Day \(0902-0908\) 3000'](#)



FSPro (FSPro 14Day (0902-0915) 3000 3day forecast - Started on 09-02-2020)

FSPro General Information

NAME	VALUE
Analysis Name	FSPro 14Day (0902-0915) 3000 3day forecast

FSPPro General Information

Analysis Start 09/02/2020

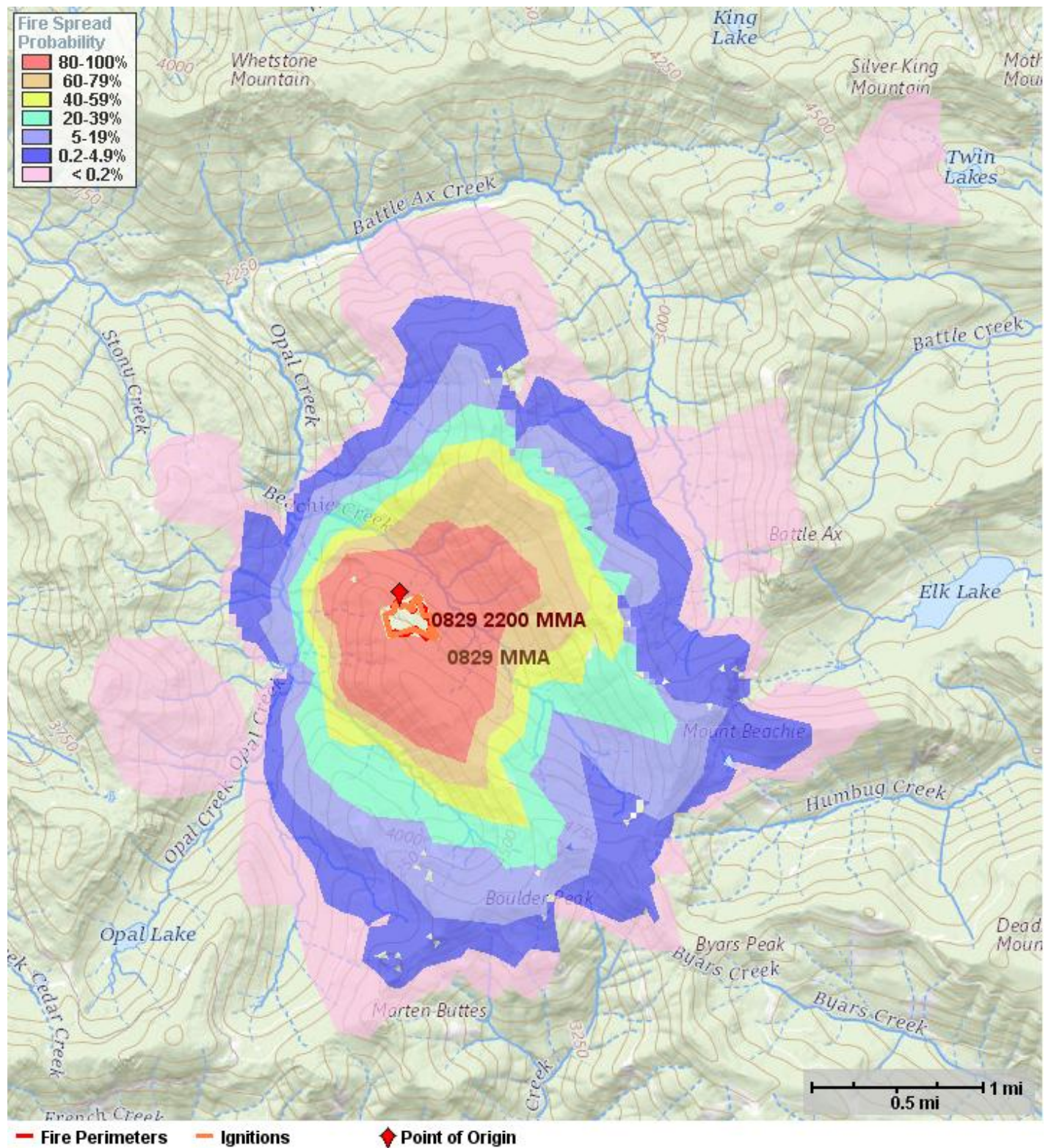
Duration 14 days

Simulations 3000 fires

Time (CDT)	User	Note
09/01/2020 21:27	Johnson, Mark	Results from a 14day (0902-09015) of 3,000 fires. Perimeter of 8/30 used as ignition file and assumed 100% active. No barriers were created. Model assumes no suppression actions are taken.

[FSPPro Analysis 'FSPPro 14Day \(0902-0915\) 3000 3day forecast'](#)





## 1.5. Risk

### Relative Risk

NAME	VALUE
Relative Risk	High
Duration	High
Saved By	Medley, Lyn
Completed	09/02/2020 13:51 CDT

### Relative Risk Notes

There is still at least several more weeks of fire season before wetting rain can be expected. There is a moderate potential for the fire to be contained by natural and constructed barriers but in the event weather patterns create the potential for extreme fire behavior these barriers may not prove to be effective.

### Values Notes

Fire is located in the Opal Creek Wilderness approximately two miles south of Jawbone Flats. With the current weather forecast the fire is not anticipated to impact any private lands, but impacts to Jawbone Flats and local recreation use on public lands is very high. Proximity to Salem, air quality concerns with COVID 19. High use recreation area closure is an economical concern.

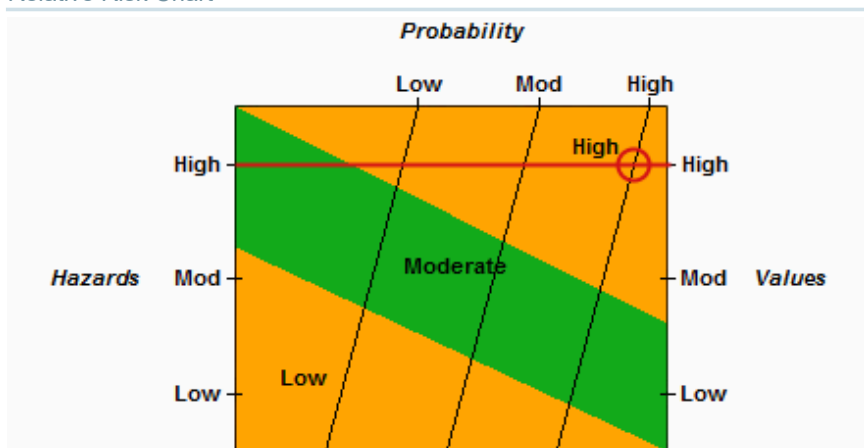
### Hazards Notes

ERC's in the fire area are at the 75 percentile and 1000 hours fuels are at 16%. Fire season is at expected to last at least three more weeks, with the potential to continue into late October. FSPro runs show potential for growth through for the next 14 days, but additional long term modelling should be done.

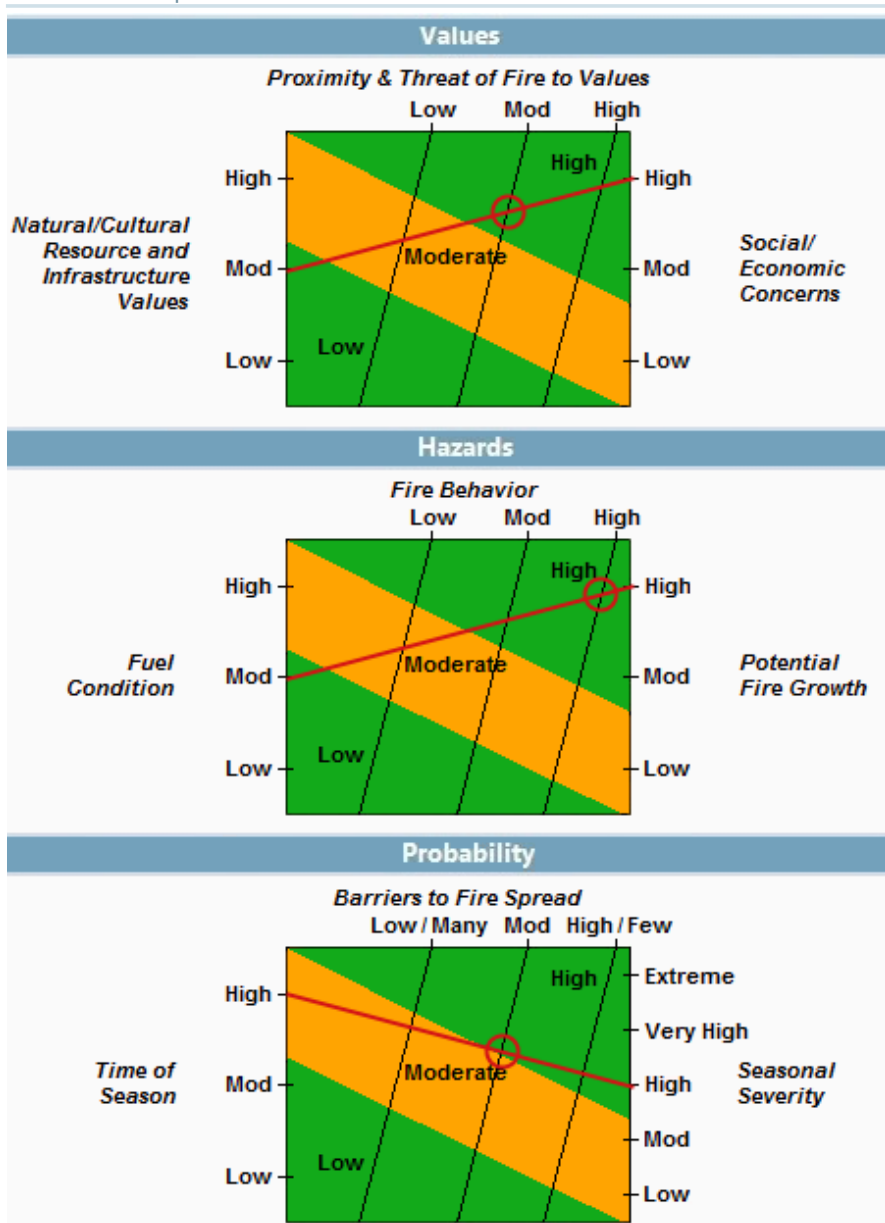
### Probability Notes

The Forest is at the height of fire season and weather events conducive to large fire growth days are still possible. There are several creek with adequate water flow to slow fire spread to the north and west of the fire and road systems to the south and east.

### Relative Risk Chart







## Organization Assessment

NAME	VALUE
Unit Recommended Org Type 2	
Saved By	Medley, Lyn
Completed	09/02/2020 15:43 CDT

## Organization Assessment Notes

The current plan is to utilize aviation resources to slow fire spread and identify and construct containment lines. Additional duties of the management team will need to include a strong public information component, stakeholder engagement, long term fire behavior and spread potential analysis, and strategic planning.

## Relative Risk Notes

There is still at least several more weeks of fire season before wetting rain can be expected. There is a moderate potential for the fire to be contained by natural and constructed barriers but in the event weather patterns create the potential for extreme fire behavior these barriers may not prove to be effective.

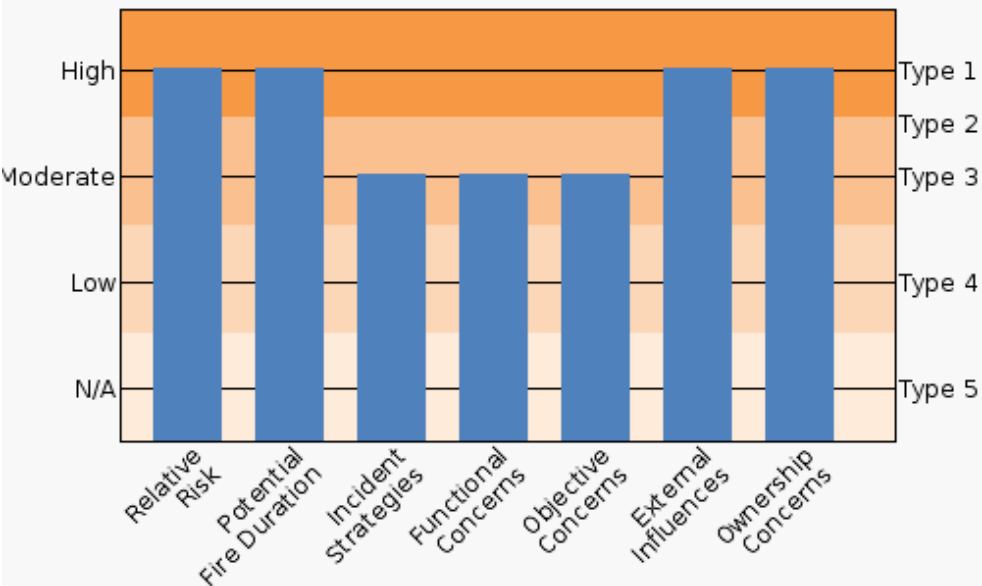
## Implementation Difficulty Notes

Access to the fire is challenging due to steep terrain and heavy fuels. Direct attack is not possible and placement of indirect lines is being scouted. Short term weather forecast does not indicate that the fire will exhibit extreme fire behavior for at least the next seven days.

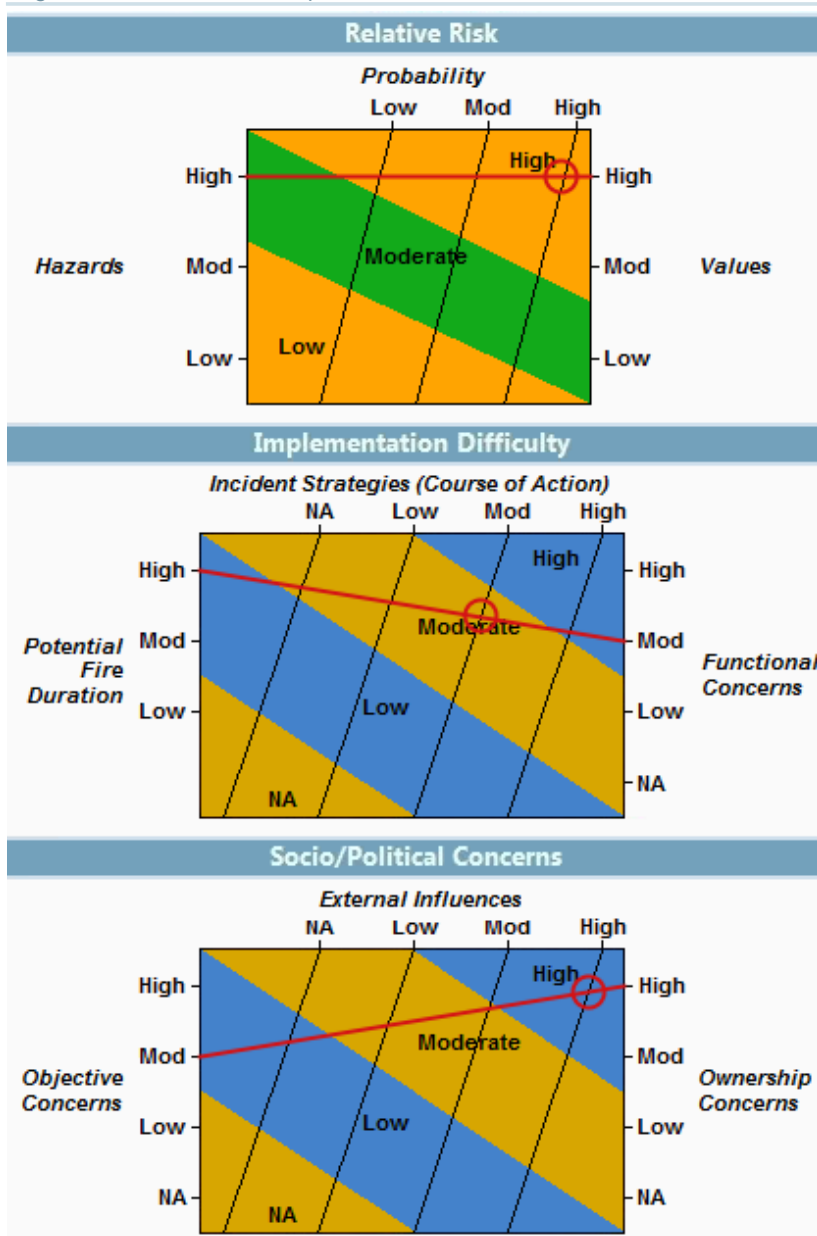
Socio/Political Concerns Notes

Currently threat of fire spreading off FS land is low, but if natural barriers are unable to stop fire spread a larger planning area will be needed and a unified command with ODF established. Jawbone Flats is located approximately two miles north of the fire and may need to be evacuated if fire crosses beachie creek.

Organization Assessment Chart



Unit Recommended Org:Type 2



Planning Area Values Inventory Generated at 08/20/2020 12:31

NAME	VALUE
Planning Area Name	08/21/2020 19:59
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Planning Area Size	52,588 acres

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Building Clusters: Clackamas, OR	0	Various	Various	Available counties
Building Clusters: Marion, OR	1	Various	Various	Available counties
Campgrounds	1	BLM (FAMS) and USFS INFRA	6/01/2018	National (BLM and USFS only)
Communication Towers	2	HIFLD	02/20/2020	National
County: Clackamas, OR	1,050 acres	USFWS ECOS	2/10/2020	National
County: Marion, OR	51,538 acres	USFWS ECOS	2/10/2020	National
Electric Transmission Lines	3.3 miles	Homeland Security Open Data	9/24/2019	National

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Est Ground Evac Time: 1-2 Hrs	16,555 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 2-4 Hrs	22,716 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 4-6 Hrs	9,403 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 6+ Hrs	2,307 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Habitat: Northern Spotted Owl	10,008 acres	US Fish and Wildlife Service	02/01/2020	National
IRA: Bull Of The Woods Roadless Area	251 acres	USFS	03/08/2019	National
IRA: Elkhorn Roadless Area	4,697 acres	USFS	03/08/2019	National
IRA: Opal Creek Roadless Area	5,417 acres	USFS	03/08/2019	National
Landowner Category: Private	320 acres	PAD-US 2.0, AICC, BIA/WFDSS, Census	03/12/2020	National
Landowner Category: USFS	52,265 acres	PAD-US 2.0, AICC, BIA/WFDSS, Census	03/12/2020	National
Natl Wild Scenic Rivers	0.5 miles	USDA/USFS/EDW	5/26/2020	National
Other Areas: Elkhorn Creek Segment i	494 acres	USGS PADUS 1.4	03/13/2019	National
Other Areas: Elkhorn Creek, Oregon	191 acres	USGS PADUS 1.4	03/13/2019	National
Other Areas: Opal Creek	8,334 acres	USGS PADUS 1.4	03/13/2019	National
USFS Buildings	3	USFS	2020	National
Wilderness: Bull of the Woods Wilderness	9,952 acres	Wilderness.net	01/31/19	National
Wilderness: Opal Creek Wilderness	17,993 acres	Wilderness.net	01/31/19	National

#### Coverage of Values Queried that Produced No Results

BLM Buildings (BLM Lands), BLM Horse and Burro (National), BLM Oil / Gas Leases (National), BLM Range Allotments (National), Class 1 Airsheds (National), Electric Power Plants (National), Electric Sub Stations (National), Mines (National), NPS Buildings (National), NRA (National), Natl Historic Trails (National), Natl Recreation Trails (National), Natl Scenic Byways (National), Natl Scenic Trails (National), Oil and Gas Pipelines (National), Ozone Non-Attainment (National), Particulates Non-Attainment (National), Protecting Unit (AK, CA, ID, MT, NM, MN), Roads (National), Sage Grouse Habitat (National), TNC Lands (National), USFWS Trails (National), WSA (National)

## 1.6. Benefits

### Benefits

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Last updated by David Warnack on 08/20/2020 15:29



### Comments

Fire disturbance to the Opal Creek Wilderness could benefit forest health and wilderness values if the fire behavior remains at a low or moderate intensity. However, given complexities associated with expected duration and the potential for dynamic fire growth during critical fire weather events, and potential impacts to adjacent values at risk, benefits are not commensurate with risk.



## 1.7. Objectives

### Incident FMU/Strategic Objective Code List

Unit	FMU/Strat Obj Code	Acres
ORMHF	Wilderness Area	8,738
ORMHF	Wood Product Emphasis	1,228
ORWIF	MA-1 - Wilderness	19,294
ORWIF	MA-10c - Dispersed Recreation-Semiprimitive Motorized_ No Timber Harvest	968
ORWIF	MA-11a - Scenic-Modification Middleground	115
ORWIF	MA-11d - Scenic-Partial Retention Foreground	306
ORWIF	MA-12a - Developed Recreation-F.S. Site	44
ORWIF	MA-13a - Special Use Permit Areas	106
ORWIF	MA-13b - F.S. Administrative Use Areas	4.6
ORWIF	MA-14a - General Forest-Intensive Timber Management	12,619
ORWIF	MA-2c - Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area	7,696
ORWIF	MA-5a - Special Interest Areas	58
ORWIF	MA-6b - Elkhorn Wild & Scenic River (scenic)	637
ORWIF	MA-9b - Wildlife Habitat-Pileated Woodpecker	301
ORWIF	MA-9c - Wildlife Habitat-Marten	74
ORWIF	MA-9d - Wildlife Habitat-Special Areas	74

### Spatial Fire Planning Inventory

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Aqua Retardant Avoidance	11,670 acres	National - FS Land Only	April 2020	National (USFS Units only)
Mgmt Req: FMU01	23,001 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: FMU02	19,291 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: IRA	10,154 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Inventoried Roadless	84 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: LSR North	3,471 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Late-Successional Reserve	1,223 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: NSO CHU North	8,785 acres	ORWIF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Wilderness Area	8,732 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Wood Product Emphasis	1,223 acres	ORMHF	Current	Unit Level
Retardant Avoidance	8 acres	USDA FS Enterprise Data Warehouse	04/2020	National (USFS Units only)

### Incident Objective List

Activated	Incident Objective
08/19/2020	Determine if direct attack is a safe and feasible containment strategy
08/19/2020	Utilize aviation resources to keep the fire south of Beachie Creek and east of Opal Creek

### Incident Requirement List

Activated	Incident Requirement
08/19/2020	Provide Agency Administrator and Oregon Department of Forestry updates and briefings on incident status as conditions evolve.
09/03/2020	Use of meadows for staging areas require prior approval.

### Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
ORMHF	<Unit>	06/15/2016	All wildfires shall receive an "appropriate suppression response." Fire management planning should minimize "cost plus net value change", i.e., costs and

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
ORMHF	Wilderness Area	06/17/2016	<p>changes to inherent resource values of the activity area should be minimized. IV-75            Preference should be given to the most restrictive standards and guidelines or provide the greatest benefits to late-successional forest related species (C-2)            Protect and enhance conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems, which serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth related species, including the north spotted owl (C-11)            Protect all cultural or heritage sites from damage caused naturally or otherwise.</p> <p>Goal- Promote, perpetuate, and preserve the wilderness character of the land; protect watersheds and wildlife habitat; preserve scenic and historic resources; and promote scientific research, primitive recreation, solitude, physical and mental challenge, and inspiration IV-136            DFC-May contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value.            Generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, evidence of human effects are minimal. IV-137</p>
ORMHF	Wood Product Emphasis	06/17/2016	<p>Goal- Provide lumber, wood fiber, and other forest products on a fully regulated bases based on the capability and suitability of the land. IV-289            DFC- Extensive stands of trees at various stages of development, arranged in a mosaic patter that is somewhat random but shows the clear influence of landform, productivity and management objectives.            Many stands have some mature trees held over from previous stands. These trees have specific biological functions.            Special sites such as campsites and overlooks are scattered throughout the area. IV-290</p>
ORWIF	<Unit>	06/20/2017	<p>Protection of human life and safety is the first priority for all actions taken on a wildfire and can overrule all other strategic and incident objectives and management and incident requirements.</p>
ORWIF	MA-1	04/14/2016	<p><b>MA-1 Wilderness</b></p> <p><u>Goal Statement-</u> MA-1 includes all designated Wilderness on the forest.MA is stratified into 4 subdivisions based on the Wilderness Resource Spectrum (WRS).Each WRS strata are individual MA designations with individual goals. See LRMP for specific goals by strata.</p> <p><u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fires resulting from human activities shall be prevented, controlled, and suppressed.</li> <li>• Unplanned ignitions from natural causes that occur in Wilderness will be considered wildfire and shall be controlled or suppressed unless the decision is made to declare it a prescribed natural fire. A fire may be declared a prescribed natural fire once the prescribed natural fire direction has been approved in the Fire Management Action Plan.</li> <li>• Suppression practices should have the least physical impact on the land consistent with other management considerations. Preference should be given to the use of natural fuel breaks.</li> <li>• Fire management activities with Wilderness shall be compatible with Wilderness management objectives. Preference should be given to methods and equipment that minimize: alteration of the landscape; disturbance of surface vegetation and soil; disturbance of visitor solitude; reduction of visibility; adverse effects on air quality; disturbance to wildlife habitat or cultural resources.</li> <li>• After the fire is declared out, appropriate actions should be taken to rehabilitate and restore the site to a natural condition.</li> <li>• The need for mechanized equipment (portable pumps, power saws, etc.) in suppression efforts shall be determined by a relative risk assessment.</li> <li>• The use of tractors or ground disturbing mechanized equipment shall be approved by the Regional Forester.</li> <li>• The use of helicopters shall be approved by the Forest Supervisor.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-10c	04/14/2016	<p><b>MA-10c Dispersed Recreation-Semiprimitive Motorized_ No Timber Harvest</b></p>

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
ORWIF	MA-11a	04/14/2016	<p><u>Goal Statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a full spectrum of recreation opportunities meeting the criteria for a Semiprimitive Motorized experience through the management of user activities and natural resource settings.</li> <li>• Provide users the opportunity to experience a sense of solitude, tranquility, self-reliance and closeness to nature.</li> <li>• Provide for the conservation of unique geographic, topographic, biological, and ecological processes, as well as significant scenic, wildlife, recreation, and watershed values.</li> </ul> <p><u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on Semiprimitive Motorized recreation values.</li> </ul>
			<p><b>MA-11a Scenic-Modification Middleground</b></p> <p><u>Goal Statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and maintain desired visual characteristics of the forest landscape through time and space.</li> <li>• Visually sensitive landscapes will be managed for a modest level of scenic quality.</li> <li>• This area will also be managed for other resource goals including timber production, recreation opportunities, watershed protection, and maintenance of wildlife habitats.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-11d	04/14/2016	<p><b>MA-11d Scenic-Partial Retention Foreground</b></p> <p><u>Goal Statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and maintain desired visual characteristics of the forest landscape through time and space.</li> <li>• Visually sensitive landscapes will be managed for a modest level of scenic quality.</li> <li>• This area will also be managed for other resource goals including maintenance of wildlife habitats, recreation opportunities, watershed protection, and timber production.</li> </ul>
			<p><b>MA-12a Developed Recreation-F.S. Site</b></p> <p><u>Goal Statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a safe, healthful, aesthetic, nonurban atmosphere for the pursuit of natural resource based recreation.</li> <li>• Provide facilities and improvements, consistent with resource protection needs and anticipated user demand, where opportunities for meaningful recreation experiences exist.</li> </ul> <p><u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on developed recreation values.</li> <li>• Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-13a	04/14/2016	<p><b>MA-13a Special Use Permit Areas</b></p> <p><u>Goal Statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide safe and efficient sites for permitted facilities and improvements to promote the public welfare in an environmentally sound manner.</li> <li>• Maximize consistency of permitted uses with surrounding land uses.</li> </ul>
			<p><b>MA-13b F.S. Administrative Use Areas</b></p> <p><u>Goal Statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide safe, adequate administrative facilities from which to accomplish land and resource management and protection objectives.</li> <li>• Locate and design administrative facilities in a manner consistent with public needs and to the extent feasible compatible with management area allocation of the occupied site.</li> </ul>

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
			<u>Standards and Guidelines-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices, and activities shall take into account public and firefighter safety, the relative value of the structure and its contents, and the objectives of the adjacent management area.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-14a	04/14/2016	<b>MA-14a General Forest-Intensive Timber Management</b> <u>Goal Statement-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce an optimum and sustainable yield of timber based on the growth potential of the land that is compatible with multiple use objectives and meets environmental requirements for soil, water, air and wildlife habitat quality.</li> <li>• Provide many opportunities for public use and enjoyment.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-2c	04/14/2016	<b>MA-2c Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area</b> <u>Goal Statement-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and provide for the enhancement of the natural, scenic, recreational, historic and cultural resources of the area in the vicinity of Opal Creek.</li> <li>• Protect and support the economy of the communities of Santiam Canyon.</li> <li>• Provide increased protection for an important drinking water source for communities served by the North Santiam River.</li> <li>• Provide for a broad range of land uses, including recreation; harvesting of nontraditional forest products, such as gathering mushrooms and materials to make baskets; and educational and research opportunities.</li> </ul> <u>Standards and Guidelines-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression practices within the Opal Creek SRA should have the least physical impact on the land consistent with other management considerations. Minimal Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) should be used during suppression efforts. Preference will be given to the use of natural fire breaks. In some cases direct attack with a minimum width of handline, or wet line using power driven pumps and hose may be more cost-effective and cause the least overall damage to SRA values.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-5a	04/14/2016	<b>MA-5a Special Interest Areas</b> <u>Goal Statement-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve lands in Special Interest Areas (SIAs) that contain exceptional scenic, cultural, biological, geological or other unusual characteristics.</li> </ul> <u>Standards and Guidelines-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effect on SIA values.</li> <li>• Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-6b	04/14/2016	<b>MA-6b Elkhorn Wild &amp; Scenic River - Scenic</b> <u>Goal Statement-</u> Scenic River Management Area will be managed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain or enhance the condition of the high quality scenery and the largely undeveloped character of the shoreline.</li> <li>• Maintain and improve the quality of water which enters the river.</li> <li>• Maintain and improve fire and wildlife habitat.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for river-oriented recreation which are consistent with the largely undeveloped nature of the segment and dependent on free-flowing conditions.</li> <li>• Utilize other resources and permit other activities which maintain or enhance the quality of the wildlife habitat, river fisheries, scenic attractions, or recreation values.</li> <li>• Comply with all standards for Scenic Rivers specified in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 8 (1987).</li> </ul>

## Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
ORWIF	MA-9b	04/14/2016	<p><u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on Scenic river values.</li> <li>• Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.</li> </ul>
			<p><b>MA-9b Wildlife Habitat-Pileated Woodpecker</b></p> <p><u>Goal Statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect mature old-growth habitat for all dependent flora and fauna by providing habitat networks for the pileated woodpecker, an ecological indicator species.</li> </ul>
			<p><u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects to PWA values.</li> <li>• Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-9c	04/14/2016	<p><b>MA-9c Wildlife Habitat-Marten</b></p> <p><u>Goal statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect mature and old-growth habitat for all dependent flora and fauna by providing habitat networks for the marten, an ecological indicator species.</li> </ul>
			<p><u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects of MHA values.</li> <li>• Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	MA-9d	04/14/2016	<p><b>MA-9d Wildlife Habitat-Special Areas</b></p> <p><u>Goal statement-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect or enhance unique wildlife habitats and botanical sites which are important components of healthy, biologically diverse ecosystems.</li> </ul>
			<p><u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppression strategies, practices and activities shall be limited to those which have minimal effects on special habitat values.</li> <li>• Fires should be suppressed at the lowest acreage practicable.</li> </ul>

## Management Requirement List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
ORMHF	Aqua Retardant Avoidance	06/18/2013	The aerial application of fire retardant is allowed for fighting fires. Aerially delivered fire retardant should not be applied to any mapped aquatic avoidance area, waterway or buffer. The only exception to using aerially applied fire retardant in avoidance areas is <b>for the protection of human life or public safety</b> . The Incident Commander is the decision maker. Information concerning the Record of Decision for the Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is available at <a href="https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html">https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html</a>
	Retardant Avoidance	05/31/2012	The aerial application of fire retardant is allowed for fighting fires. Aerially delivered fire retardant should not be applied to any mapped terrestrial avoidance area, waterway or buffer. The only exception to using aerially applied fire retardant in avoidance areas is <b>for the protection of human life or public safety</b> . The Incident Commander is the decision maker. Information concerning the Record of Decision for the Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is available at <a href="https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html">https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html</a>
	<Unit>	06/15/2016	Resource Advisors shall be assigned when necessary to achieve Management Area management direction IV-77. Cultural- A Cultural resource advisor should be consulted to determine if effects of fire are favored over effects of suppression activities. Visual Resource Mgmt- Fire suppression actions should be planned to achieve the prescribed VQOs IV-115. Riparian Reserves (WFDSS is unable to map these, see GIS data for locations): FM-1- fire suppression strategies should minimize disturbance of riparian ground cover and



Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
			<p>vegetation.</p> <p>FM-2-Locate incident bases, camps, helibases, staging areas, helispots and other centers for incident activities outside Riparian Reserves. If the only suitable location for such activities is within the Riparian Reserve, an exemption may be granted following review and recommendation by a resource advisor.</p> <p>FM-3-Minimize delivery of chemical retardant, foam, or additives to surface waters. An exception may be warranted in situations where overriding immediate safety imperatives exist, or, following review and recommendation by a resource advisor, when an escape would cause more long-term damage.</p> <p>FM-5- Immediately establish an emergency team to develop a rehabilitation treatment plan needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives whenever Riparian Reserves are significantly damaged by wildfire.</p> <p>Other - In Riparian Reserves, the goal of wildfire suppression is to limit the size of all fires. In Riparian Reserves, water drafting sites should be located and managed to minimize adverse effects on riparian habitat and water quality, as consistent with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives (C-35)</p> <p>Locate water drafting sites to minimize adverse effects to stream channel stability, sedimentation, and in-stream flows needed to maintain riparian resources, channel conditions, and fish habitat (C-37)</p>
ORMHF	Inventoried Roadless	06/15/2016	Any necessary timber cutting or removal or any road construction or road reconstruction in emergency situations involving wildfire suppression, search and rescue operations, or other imminent threats to public health and safety in inventoried roadless areas.
ORMHF	Late-Successional Reserve	06/15/2016	<p>The wildfire management goal in LSRs is to keep all stand-replacing events as small as possible while at the same time ensuring that firefighter and public safety is the highest priority. (LSRAs)</p> <p>During actual fire suppression activities, fire managers will consult with resource specialists (e.g., botanists, fisheries and wildlife biologists, hydrologists) familiar with the area, these standards and guidelines, and their objectives, to assure that habitat damage is minimized. Minimize suppression impacts to habitat by using MIST when safe and effective to do so. Retain large woody debris to the extent possible by extinguishing such material. (C18)</p>
ORMHF	Wilderness Area	06/15/2016	<p>Off-road vehicle use shall be prohibited. IV-143</p> <p>Preference shall be given to those suppression methods and strategies resulting in the least practicable area burned, commensurate with cost effectiveness, and having the least effect on wilderness values.</p> <p>Human caused wildfires shall be suppressed.</p> <p>Naturally occurring ignitions should be managed as prescribed fire unless declared a wildfire. IV-144</p>
ORMHF	Wood Product Emphasis	06/15/2016	See Unit Wide Management Requirements
ORWIF	<Unit>	04/14/2016	<p><b>Special Interest Areas</b></p> <p>Use methods and equipment that will minimize disturbance to the special features of the area. Locate fire camps, helispots, and other temporary facilities or improvements outside the area if possible.</p>
ORWIF	<Unit>	04/14/2016	<p><b>Riparian Reserves- NORTHWEST FOREST PLAN</b></p> <p>The goal of wildfire suppression in Riparian Reserves is to limit wildfire size. When Watershed and/or Landscape Analysis are completed and approved, natural fires ignited by lightning may be managed to meet Riparian Reserve resource objectives described therein.</p> <p>[Escaped fire] strategies should recognize the role of fire in ecosystem management and identify those instances where suppression activities could be damaging to long term ecosystem function.</p> <p>Design suppression strategies to minimize the disturbance of ground cover and vegetation.</p> <p>Rapidly extinguishing smoldering coarse woody debris and duff should be considered to preserve these ecosystem elements. To the greatest extent possible, avoid placement of suppression lines in areas where in-stream and floodplain large wood would need to be cut due to subsequent impacts on aquatic organism habitat.</p>

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
			<p>Locate incident bases, camps, helibases, staging areas, helispots and other centers for incident activities outside of the Riparian Reserves. An exemption may be granted by a resource advisor if no other suitable location exists. The advisor will prescribe the location, use condition, and rehabilitation requirements.</p> <p>Water drafting sites should be located and managed to minimize adverse effects on riparian habitat and water quality. Immediately establish an emergency team to develop a rehabilitation plan needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy requirements whenever Riparian Reserves are significantly damaged by wildfire.</p> <p>Minimize delivery of chemical retardant, foam, or additives to surface waters. An exception may be warranted in situations where overriding immediate safety imperatives exist, or, following review and recommendation by a resource advisor, when an escape will cause more long-term damage (amended by the 2008 USFS Aerial Application of fire Retardant Record of Decision, see the Nationwide Management Requirements for Aquatic and Terrestrial Retardant Avoidance).</p> <p>Consult with READ personnel before reopening mid-slope or riparian roads in Riparian Reserves that have been stored or decommissioned for aquatic resource benefit.</p>
ORWIF	<Unit>	04/18/2016	<p><b>CULTURAL RESOURCES</b> <u>Standards and Guidelines-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures shall be developed to protect significant sites from adverse effects due to ground disturbing and other activities.</li> <li>Eligible cultural resources shall be protected from depredation and natural destruction.</li> <li>Eligible historic sites and historic trails shall be maintained and/or adverse effects shall be mitigated.</li> <li>Mitigation measures established during the environmental analysis of a given project shall be monitored to maintain a current record of site conditions. Tracking of the mitigation plan is necessary during and following ground-disturbing activities.</li> </ul> <p>Consult qualified archaeologist on the unit to determine potential for impacts to cultural resources;</p> <p>Assign a qualified archeologist as a resource advisor to any wildfire where there is a considerable potential for risk to significant cultural resources.</p> <p>Utilize local Heritage specialists, if possible, prior to engagement and in the planning process to identify categories of archaeological sites present and recommend the appropriate level of protection in accordance with Forest Service Manual 2360, (Emergency Undertaking) clauses of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.</p> <p>Consult local cultural resource specialists and Native American (tribal) representatives, if possible, prior to engagement and in the planning process to identify Native American traditional cultural areas, and to identify protection measures.</p> <p>Utilize local tribal fire crews and resource advisors when available.</p>

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
ORWIF	FMU01	04/14/2016	<b>Forest Wide Standards and Guidelines – General Forest</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All wildfires shall receive an Appropriate Suppression Response. The associated strategies and tactics should be the most cost-effective commensurate with the objectives for the management area on which the fire occurs.</li> <li>• An on-site analysis should be utilized to identify the appropriate fire suppression strategy which is most cost-effective and environmentally acceptable.</li> <li>• A control strategy shall be utilized where public or firefighter safety is threatened.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	FMU02	04/14/2016	<b>Forest Wide Standards and Guidelines – Wilderness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All naturally occurring fires in Wilderness shall be treated as wildfires unless an approved Wilderness Fire Management Implementation Plan exists (FMS 2324).</li> <li>• In suppression of wildfire, preference should be given to those suppression methods and strategies that result in limiting the burned area to within the Wilderness boundary. Other factors to consider include cost-effectiveness, the preservation of the Wilderness values, and the threat to people, other resource values or private property.</li> <li>• All fires that do not meet the standards set forth for prescribed fire shall be suppressed in an appropriate manner</li> <li>• A Control Strategy shall be utilized where public or firefighter safety is threatened.</li> <li>• A WFDSS decision shall be prepared for a wildfire which is not contained/controlled at 10 acres or less in size or any fire if containment is not expected prior to the second burning period.</li> <li>• Suppression practices should have the least physical impact on the land consistent with other management considerations. Preference will be given to use of natural fuel breaks.</li> <li>• Crew camps should be small and located away from popular camping areas. Camps should be rehabilitated after the fire, removing all litter, hose, gas cans, or other evidence of human occupation.</li> <li>• An assessment of the environmental impacts should be made before using retardants to determine if the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.</li> <li>• Helispots requiring no ground disturbance should be utilized first. Construction of helispots will have minimum ground disturbance and not result in an unacceptable impact to the Wilderness.</li> <li>• Felling of snags should be restricted to the absolute minimum for containment and/or safety purposes.</li> <li>• After the fire is declared out, appropriate actions should be taken to rehabilitate and restore the site to a natural condition.</li> <li>• Where modified suppression practices have been used, care should be taken to ensure that the fire is completely out.</li> </ul>
ORWIF	IRA	06/17/2016	<b>INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREA</b> Inventoried Roadless Area(s) have been identified within the planning area. As a reminder, on May 31, 2012, the Chief of the Forest Service reserved the authority to review all projects involving road construction or reconstruction and the cutting, sale, or removal of timber in Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs). The Chief delegated to Regional Foresters the authority to review <b><i>“Any necessary timber cutting or removal or any road construction or road reconstruction in emergency situations involving wildfire suppression</i></b> , search and rescue operations, or other imminent threats to public health and safety <b><i>in inventoried roadless areas.</i></b> In order to comply with the Chief's direction, any forest that is considering timber cutting and/or road construction/reconstruction during emergency situations as described above should <b><i>contact the Regional Forester's Office as soon as practical.</i></b> The Regional Forester will review the proposed emergency timber cutting and/or road construction/reconstruction activities with the appropriate line officer in accordance with the Chief's delegation of authority. Reminder Issued 07/31/2014
ORWIF	LSR North	04/14/2016	<b>Late Successional Reserves: NORTHWEST FOREST PLAN</b> Plans for wildfire suppression will emphasize maintaining late successional habitat. During actual fire suppression activities, fire managers will consult with resource specialists familiar with the area. Until a fire management plan is completed for Late Successional Reserves,

## Management Requirement List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
ORWIF	NSO CHU North	04/14/2016	<p>suppress all wildfire to avoid the loss of habitat in order to maintain future management options.</p> <p>In Late Successional Reserves, the goal of wildfire suppression is to limit the size of all fires. When planning is completed, some natural fires may be allowed to burn under prescribed conditions. Rapidly extinguishing smoldering coarse woody debris and duff should be considered to preserve these ecosystem elements.</p> <p><b>Northern Spotted Owl Critical Habitat Unit (CHU)</b></p> <p>Use suppression methods and equipment that minimize disturbance to the land surface and vegetation. Fell snags and large old live trees only if they either are safety hazards or will hamper control efforts, resulting in further resource damage. Rehabilitate the fire area after suppression actions to return it to a natural condition consistent with Management Area objectives.</p>

## 1.8. Course of Action

### Course of Action

Active	Inactive	Action Item
08/19/2020		Full suppression.
09/03/2020		<b>Primary</b> Current Management Actions: <b>Alternate</b> This control measure in an addition to the primary plan yet avoids creating a secondary version of the original plan. Opportunities considered are to utilize roads, trails and natural barriers such as flowing creeks to contain the fire within the Opal Creek Wilderness. <b>Contingency</b> Includes identification of natural and landscape features that offer an opportunity for success in stopping or altering the spread of the fire if the initial plan does not entirely succeed. This plan also considers current and expected fire behavior and timing to meet suppression objectives. <b>Emergency</b> Emergency actions will be conducted where and when necessary for the direct protection of human life and property. Emergency planning is being conducted to establish tactics and control points to address potential threats. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beachie Creek and Opal Creek provide opportunities for natural fuel break to check and/or delay the fire spread to the north, north east, east, west and north west to slow or eliminate fire progression.</li><li>• Natural barriers along with FS Trail 3349 and 3341 located along French Creek Ridge if fire progresses to the south.</li><li>• Improve FS Trail 3349 and 3341 along French Creek Ridge if fire behavior increases.</li><li>• Improve FS Road 2207 as needed from the junction of FS Trail 3372 east toward French Creek Ridge.</li><li>• Evaluate opportunities to utilize aviation resources as needed with sound risk management process and decisions related to risk exposure.</li><li>• Beachie Creek and Opal Creek provide opportunities as natural barriers to slow or stop the progression of the fire.</li><li>• FS Road 2207 and FS Trail 3349 and 3341 are potential control lines depending of fire behavior.</li><li>• Evaluate FS Road 2207 from junction of FS road 2207-125 south to FS trail 3372 on west boundary of Opal Creek Wilderness as a potential control line.</li><li>• Evaluate FS road 2207-125 south along Cedar Creek as a potential control line.</li><li>• Prepare to implement structure protection plan for Jawbone Flats if fire advances outside wilderness boundary to the north.</li><li>• Little North Santiam River and Opal Creek are optimal natural barriers to slow or stop fire progression to the north if fire exceeds wilderness boundary.</li><li>• Cedar Creek, Little North Santiam River and Opal Creek provide additional natural barriers to limit fire spread to the north, east and west.</li><li>• Consider FS Road 2207 along with FS trail 3349 and 3341 as potential control lines.</li><li>• Assess contingency line opportunities along FS road 2209, 2209-201 and FS trail 3347.</li><li>• Continue to evaluate opportunities to connect road systems and trail systems south of the fire to reduce impacts to Detroit and Detroit Lake area.</li><li>• Evaluate structure protection needs and implement structure protection plans as needed if incident warrants such actions.</li><li>• Evaluate and recommend roads, trails, campgrounds and area closures as necessary.</li></ul>

### Management Action Point 1

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	
Shape	
Activated	08/19/2020
Deactivated	
Status	Active

### Condition

Keep fire east of Opal Creek.

### Actions

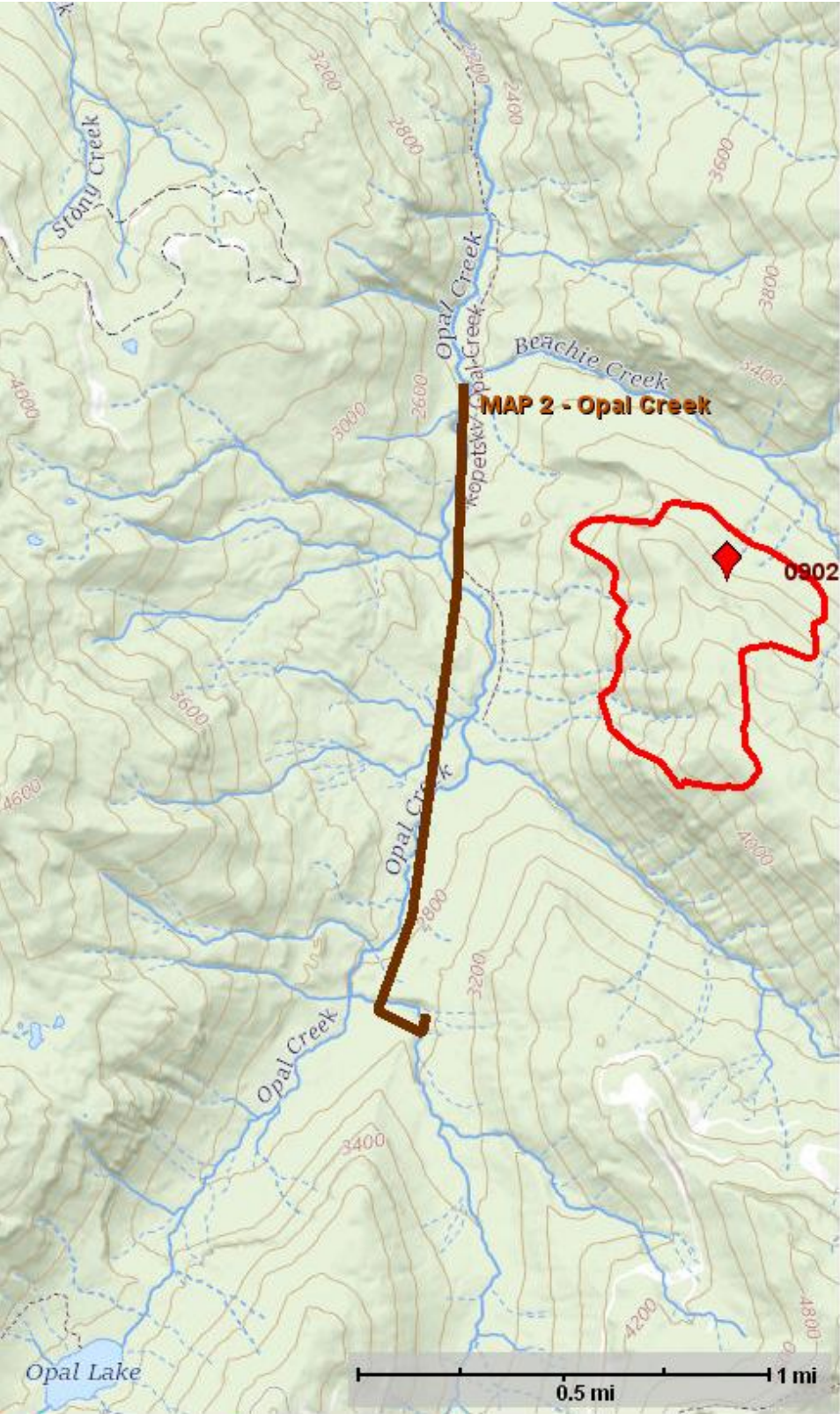
If fire reaches Opal Creek consider type 2 organization.



## Resources

Type 2 team.

Management Action Point 2



NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	
Shape	Opal Creek

Activated	08/19/2020
Deactivated	
Status	Active

### Condition

Keep fire east of Opal Creek and south of Beachie Breek.

### Actions

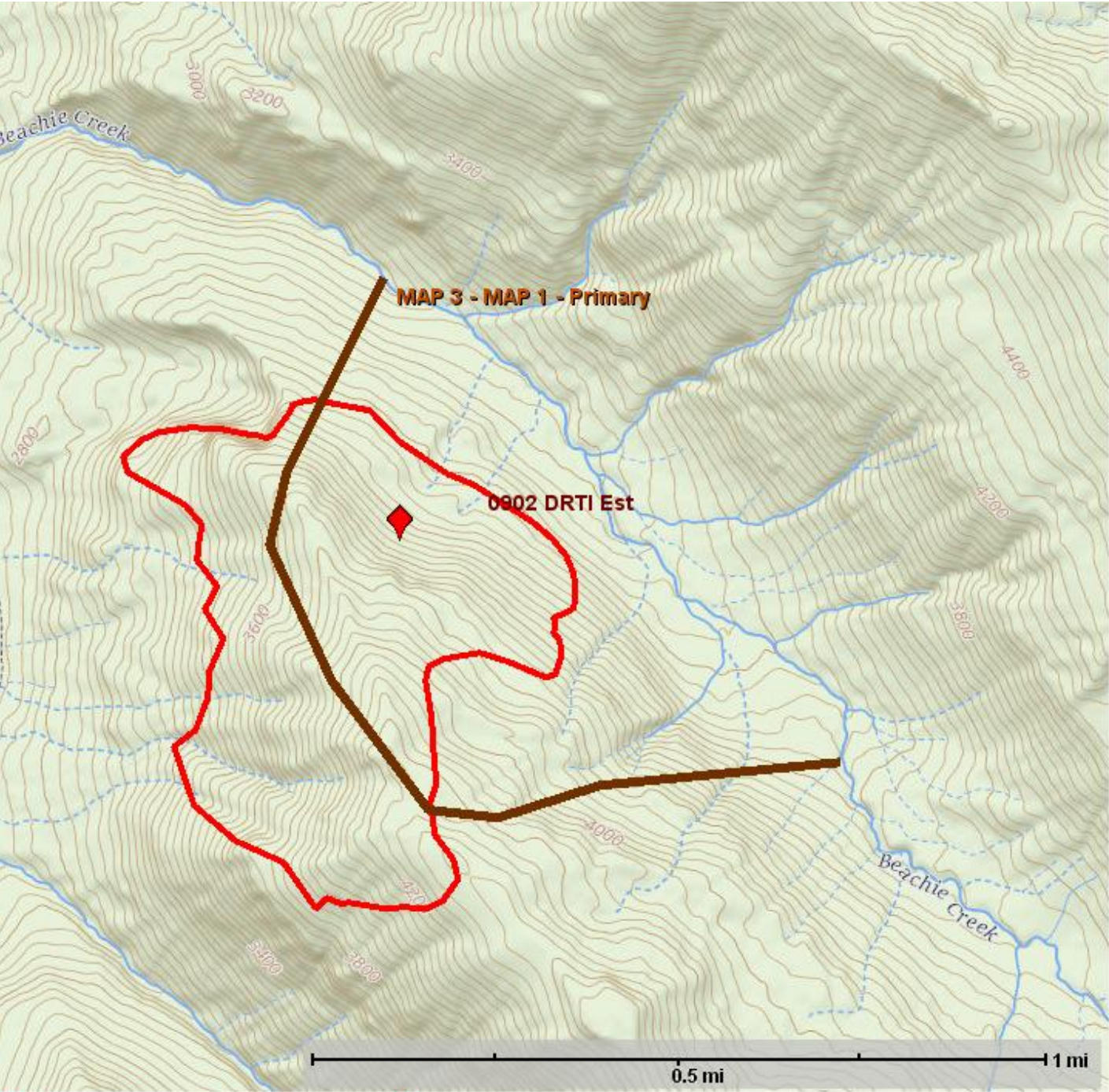
Consider type 2 organization if fire reaches creeks.

### Resources

Type 2 team



Management Action Point 3



— Fire Perimeters — Planning Areas ◆ Point of Origin

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	
Shape	MAP 1 - Primary
Activated	09/03/2020
Deactivated	
Status	Active

Condition

#### Current management actions:

- Beachie Creek and Opal Creek provide opportunities for natural fuel break to check and/or delay the fire spread to the north, north east, east, west and north west to slow or eliminate fire progression.
- Natural barriers along the FS Trail 3349 and 3341 located along French Creek Ridge if fire progresses to the south.
- Improve FS Trail 3349 and 3341 along French Creek Ridge if fire behavior increases.
- Improve FS Road 2207 as needed from the junction of FS Trail 3372 east toward French Creek Ridge.
- Evaluate opportunities to utilize aviation resources as needed with sound risk management process and decisions related to risk exposure.

#### Actions

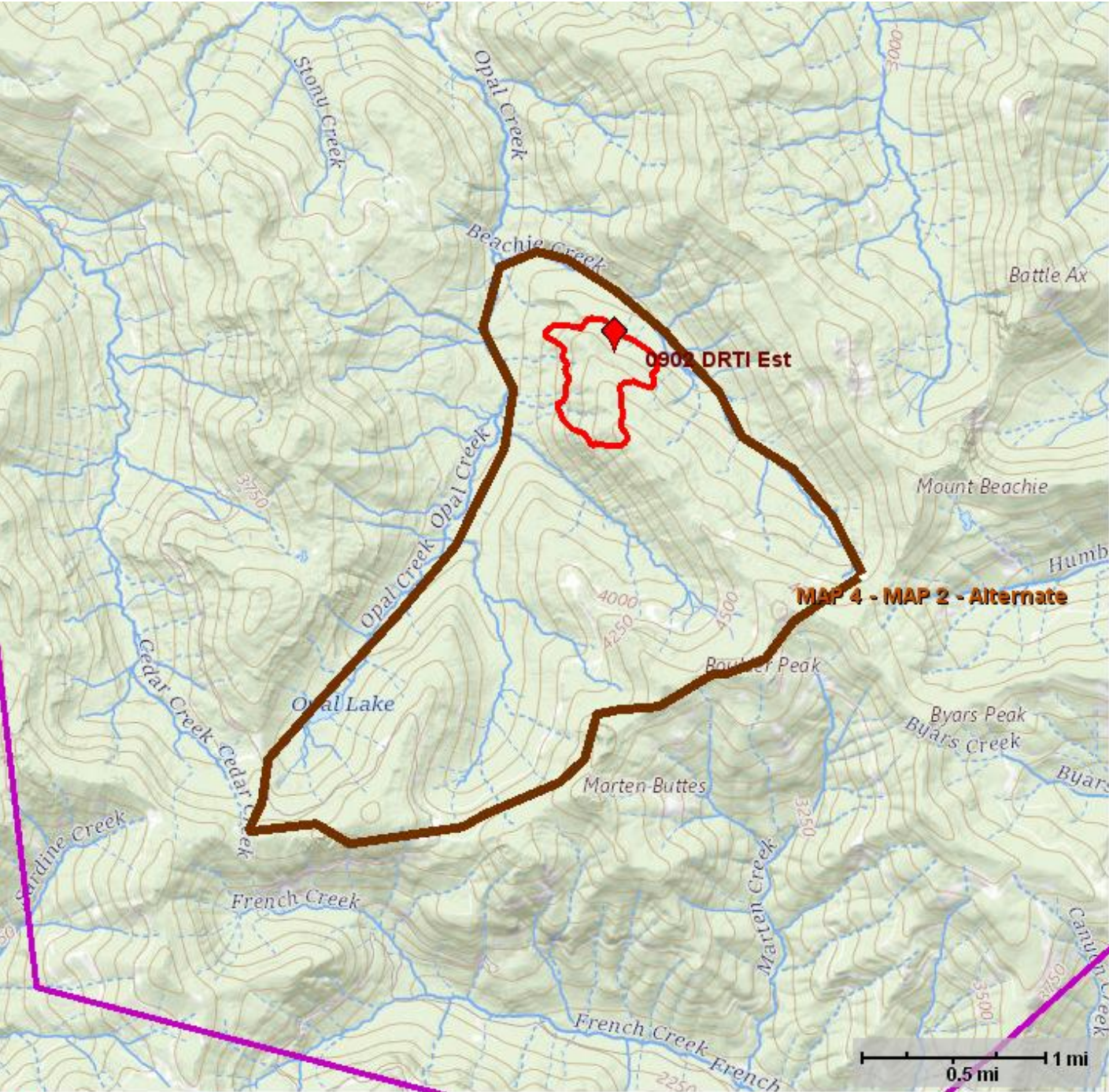
- Monitor fire behavior utilizing the camera located on Whetstone Mountain.
- If fire behavior increases respond with type II helicopter as needed and be prepared to initiate bucket work to suppress fire growth and keep fire confined to current location on landscape.
- Initiate operations to improve FS Trail 3349 and 3341 along French Creek Ridge along with FS Road 2207 between FS Trail 3372 and 3349 to use as control lines if fire behavior increases and starts advancing from its current location on the landscape.
- At a minimum consider ordering 4 T2IA handcrews along with a Type 1 and a Type II helicopter if fire behavior increases between Opal and Beachie Creeks. This will enable fire crews the time needed to complete suppression actions before the fire reaches the control barriers.

#### Resources

- 4 T2IA handcrews
- Type 1 helicopter
- Type II helicopter



Management Action Point 4



— Fire Perimeters — Planning Areas ◆ Point of Origin

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	
Shape	MAP 2 - Alternate
Activated	09/03/2020
Deactivated	
Status	Active

Condition



This control measure is an addition to the primary plan yet avoids creating a secondary version of the original plan. Opportunities considered are the utilize roads, FS trails and natural barriers such as flowing creeks to contain fire within the Opal Creek Wilderness. Current management actions:

- Beachie Creek and Opal Creek provide opportunities as natural barriers to slow or stop the progression of the fire.
- FS Road 2207 and FS Trail 3349 and 3341 are potential control lines depending on fire behavior.
- Evaluate FS Road 2207 from junction of FS road 2207-125 south to FS trail on west boundary of Opal Creek wilderness as potential control line.
- Prepare to implement structure protection plan for Jawbone Flats if fire advances outside wilderness boundary to the north.
- Little North Santiam River and Opal Creek are optimal natural barriers to slow or stop fire progression to the north if fire exceeds wilderness boundary.

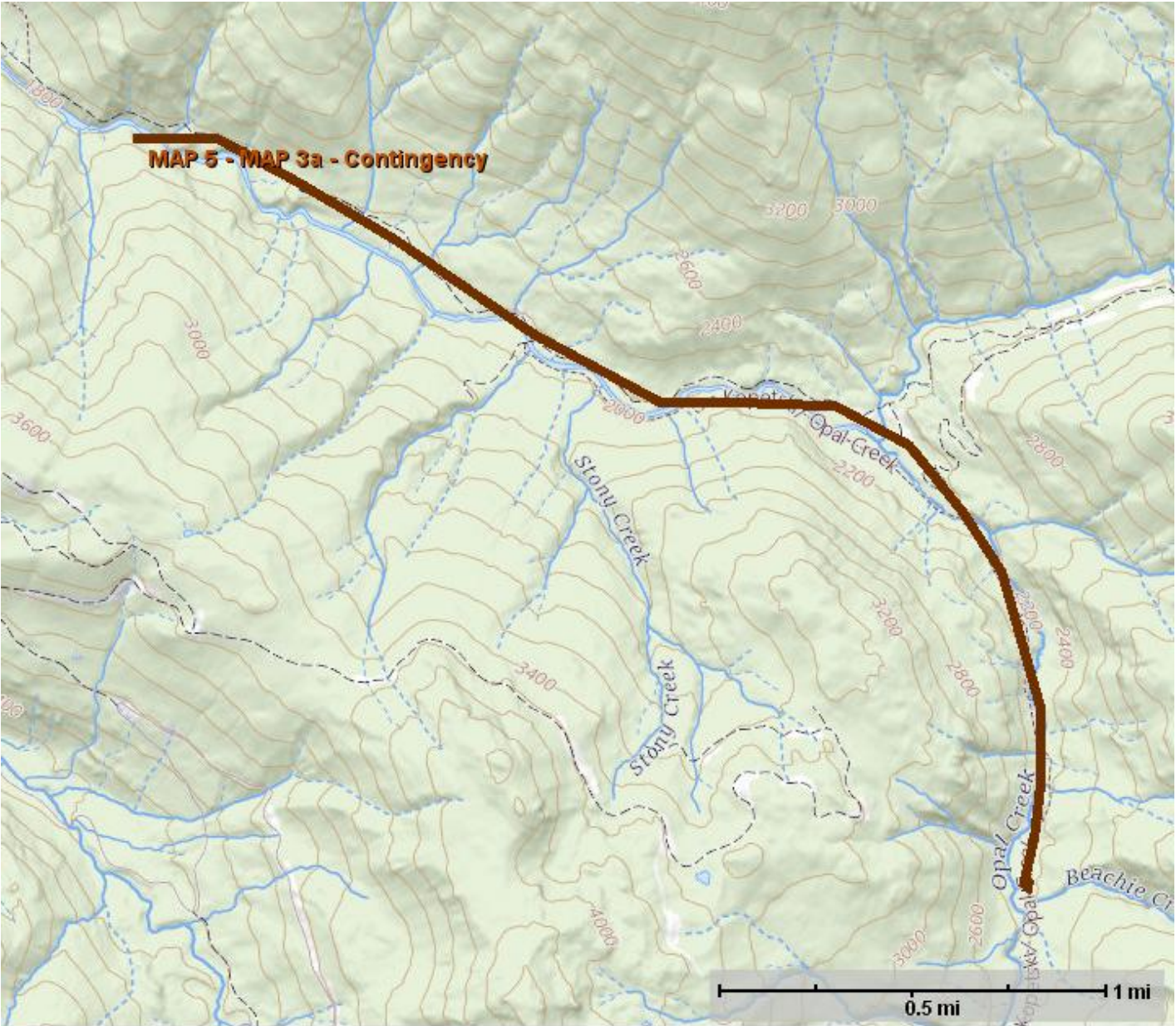
## **Actions**

- If fire behavior increases implement bucket operations to slow progression of fire.
- If fire advances downslope toward Opal Creek initiate operation to improve FS road 2207 from junction of FS Road 2207-125 south to FS Trail 3372 on west boundary of Opal Creek Wilderness that will be used as a check line to slow and/or stop progression of fire advancement.
- If fire advances downslope toward Opal Creek also implement improvement to FS road 2207-225 by brushing to prepare as a control line.
- FS Road 2207 and 2209 needs to be improved to be used as a control if fire behavior increases and advances outside of Opal Creek drainage.
- As fire advances outside of Opal Creek to the west and north implement structure protection in Jawbone Flats along with evacuation procedures.
- Fire progression to the east beyond Beachie Creek will entail addressing additional management action points that will address control lines and containment strategies.

## **Resources**

May require reinitiation of land use agreements.

Management Action Point 5



Fire Perimeters   Planning Areas

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	
Shape	MAP 3a - Contingency
Activated	09/03/2020
Deactivated	
Status	Active

Condition

The contingency strategy includes identification of natural and landscape features that offer an opportunity for success in stopping or altering the spread of the fire if the initial plan does not entirely succeed. This plan also considers current and expected fire behavior and timing to meet suppression objectives.

Current management actions:

- Cedar Creek, Little North Santiam River and Opal Creek provide additional natural barriers to limit spread to the north, east and west.
- Consider FS road 2207 along with FS trail 3349 and 3341 as potential control lines.
- Assess contingency line opportunities along FS road 2209, 2209-201 and FS trail 3347.

- Continue to evaluate opportunities to connect road systems and trail systems south of the fire to reduce impacts to Detroit and Detroit Lake area.

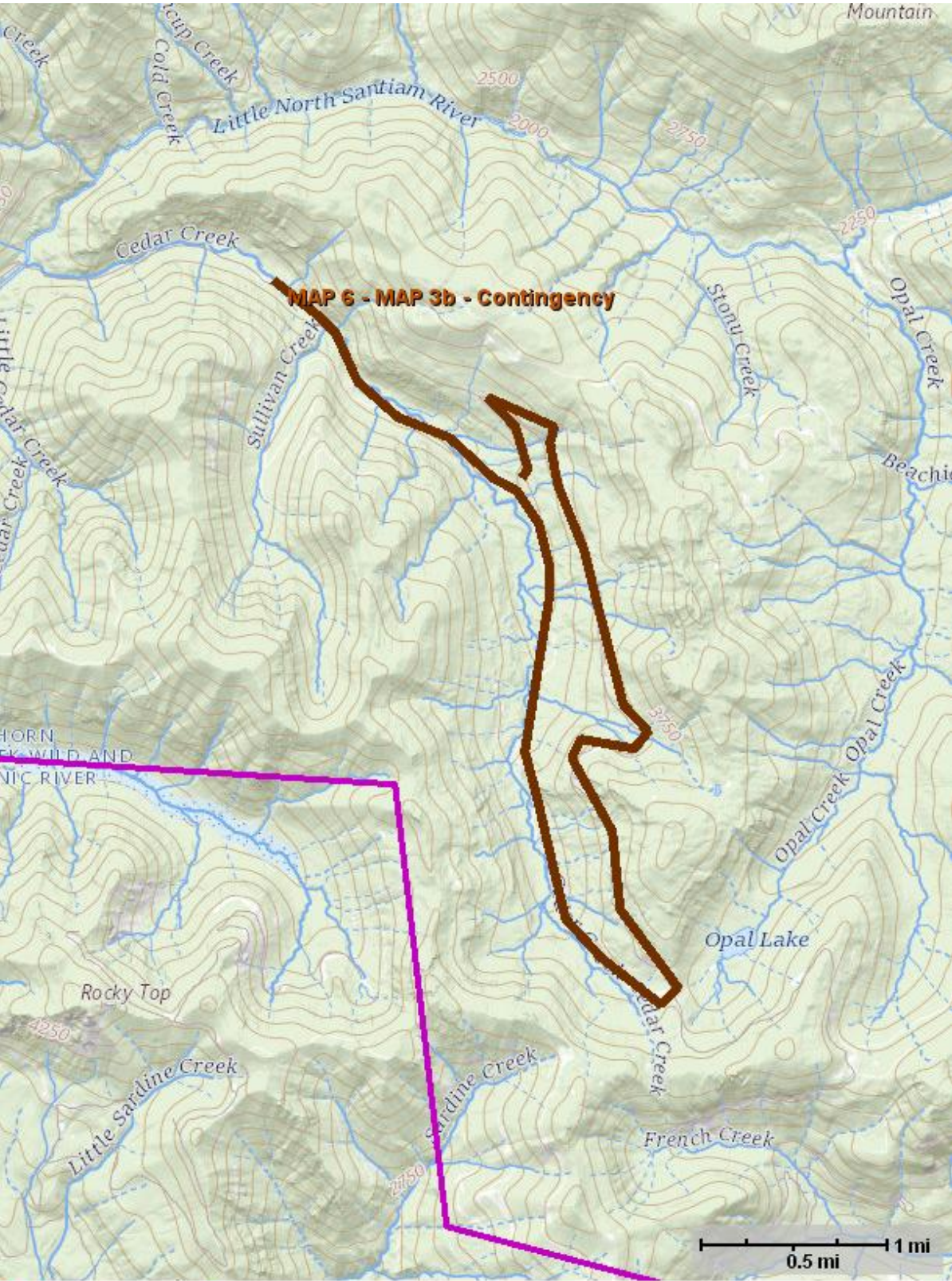
## **Actions**

- Aviation resources assigned and committed to slow progression of fire from advancing toward private property.
- FS road 2209 needs to be improved to be used as a control line.
- FS road 2209-201 and FS trail 3347 needs to be improved and prepared for control line.
- Prepare structure plan for Elkhorn Woods Valley.
- Secure and protect private property including structures between FS Road 2209-201 and forest boundary.
- Implement evacuation protocol for the Elkhorn Woods Valley.
- Prepare structure protection plan for Detroit, Detroit Lake and Gates.

## **Resources**



Management Action Point 6



— Fire Perimeters — Planning Areas

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Beachie Creek
Cost	
Shape	MAP 3b - Contingency
Activated	09/03/2020

Deactivated

Status	Active
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## Condition

- Cedar Creek, Little North Santiam Rive and Opal Creek provide additional natural barriers to limit fire spread to the north, east and west.
- Consider FS road 2207 along with FS Trail 3349 and 3341 as potential control lines.
- Assess contingency line opportunitites along FS road 2209, 2209-201 and FS trail 3347.
- Continue to evaluate opportunities to connect road systems and trail systems sout of the fire to reduce impacts to Detroit and Detroit Lake area.

## Actions

- Aviation resources assigned and committed to slow progression of fire from advancing toward private property.
- FS road 2209 needs to be improved to be used as a control line.
- FS road 2209-201 and FS trail 3347 needs to be improved and prepared for control line.
- Prepare structure plan for Elkhorn Woods Valley.
- Secure and protect private property including structures between FS road 2209-201 and forest boundary.
- Iplement evacuation protocol for the Elkhorn Woods Valley.
- Prepare structure protection plan for Detroit, Detroit Lake and Gates.

## Resources

Avaition resources.

Hand crews.



## 1.9. Cost

Estimated Final Cost

NAME	VALUE
Estimated Final Cost	\$10,000,000
Method(s) Used	Other

### Comments

Estimated costs.

## 1.10. Rationale

### Beachie Creek Decision

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The Beachie Creek fire is located in the Opal Creek Wilderness, approximately 2 miles south of Jawbone Flats and 6 miles north of Detroit, Oregon. The fire is in steep, rugged terrain with limited and unsafe access options for firefighters.

On September 1 st the Beachie Creek fire grew from 25 acres to 50 acres after almost two week period of little to no activity due to cooler than average temperatures and humidity's in the fire area during late August. On Sept 2nd the fire grew to 150 acres due to active torching and backing.

With the expected weather forecast there is significant potential for the Beachie Creek Fire to see continued fire growth and an increase in fire behavior throughout the next two weeks. Temperatures on the Willamette National Forest are expected to reach 90 degrees and RH levels may drop into the low to mid 20's. This will be accompanied by several days of dry east winds which have historically resulted in large fire growth days on fires in western Oregon.

This predicted pattern is similar to the weather that influenced fire behavior the first day the incident was reported. Under these conditions the fire exhibited single and group tree torching with active uphill and downhill spread even as multiple helicopters checked fire growth with water drops. Conditions quickly moderated after the first day due to the cooler pattern that dominated the fire area and the incident saw limited growth and fire behavior over the past week.

The current weather pattern looks to last for the next 7-10 days with no significant change in sight. The anticipated increase in fire behavior that is expected to bring additional growth and smoke production will last into next week at a minimum, and as east winds impact the fire area smoke moving down the drainages into Jawbone Flats and communities in the Little North Fork and Elkhorn Valley can be expected. Additional smoke from the Lionshead Fire east of the Willamette National Forest may also impact these communities over the next week.

Currently there are three helicopters assigned to the fire and additional aviation resources have been ordered. Helicopters will continue to make water drops along the fires perimeter to slow the fires spread and intensity and prevent it from spreading toward private land in the days to come. Warm and dry weather is expected to persist through the next weekend.

The decision is to continue full suppression activities as outlined in the PACE plan. The primary strategy is to utilize aviation resources as needed to reduce fire spread, along with utilizing natural barriers to help check fire spread. Suppression outside of the wilderness will include line construction and road preparation. The intent is to minimize the fire spread and avoid suppression impacts to private lands and the communities of Jawbone Flats and Detroit.

This decision will incorporate the Strategic Communication Plan prepared by the NIMO team. Incident information goals are to provide stakeholders with the information they need to understand the fire threat; provide timely information using traditional and social media; improve stakeholder and concerned publics' understandings of wildland fire and fire management; and, support agency and cooperator efforts to prevent and manage human caused wildfire ignitions.

This decision addresses and answers the following questions.

#### 1. What are the critical values at risk?

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Values below except the first are not listed in prioritized order. This list of values needs to be reviewed during development of future decisions to ensure all values listed are still at risk and to identify any new values that may be threatened by predicted future fire growth.

- a. Firefighter and public health and safety
- b. Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center at Jawbone Flats
- c. Numerous trails and developed recreation infrastructure
- d. Private lands
- e. Threatened and endangered species; Northern spotted owl
- f. Opal Creek Wilderness
- g. Inventoried Roadless Areas
- h. Active timber sales
- i. Cultural resources

#### 2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

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- a. Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center at Jawbone Flats: The chance is high that if east winds and spotting that spread across Beachie or Opal Creek will threaten or impact Jawbone Flats.
- b. Numerous Forest Service trails and developed recreation infrastructure: Dependent of location of trails and infrastructure.
- c. Threatened and endangered species; A Northern spotted owl nest patch could be impacted by fire suppression activities. Work with READS to avoid or document impacts.
- d. Opal Creek Wilderness: the fire is currently burning in the wilderness and there are already impacts. Full impacts will depend on fire and severity. Wilderness values.
- e. Inventoried Roadless Areas: Suppression activities along roads may cut and remove trees in roadless areas.
- f. Active timber sales: There is a low probability fire spreads to the active timber sales could impact the ability for local contractors to implement this sale.
- g. Cultural Resources. Line construction and ground disturbance could impact these resources. Work with READS/REAFs to avoid damage.

#### 3. What are the opportunities to manage fire to meet land management objectives?

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There are currently no opportunities to manage the fire to meet land management objectives.

#### 4. What are the possible low probability/high consequence events?

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There is a low probability that fire spread will impact private land including Jawbone Flats where there are structures and approximately 12 residents. The community of Elkhorn is further away.

## 5. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

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Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center at Jawbone Flats  
Marion County Commissioners  
Oregon Department of Forestry  
Mt. Hood National Forest

### Risk Decisions

#### 1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies, and tactics) are being considered?

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##### Primary

- Beachie Creek and Opal Creek provide opportunities for natural fuel break to check and/or delay the fire spread to the north, north east, east, west and north west to slow or eliminate fire progression.
- Natural barriers along with FS Trail 3349 and 3341 located along French Creek Ridge if fire progresses to the south.
- Improve FS Trail 3349 and 3341 along French Creek Ridge if fire behavior increases.
- Improve FS Road 2207 as needed from the junction of FS Trail 3372 east toward French Creek Ridge.
- Evaluate opportunities to utilize aviation resources as needed with sound risk management process and decisions related to risk exposure.

##### Alternate

This control measure in an addition to the primary plan yet avoids creating a secondary version of the original plan. Opportunities considered are to utilize roads, trails and natural barriers such as flowing creeks to contain the fire within the Opal Creek Wilderness.

- Beachie Creek and Opal Creek provide opportunities as natural barriers to slow or stop the progression of the fire.
- FS Road 2207 and FS Trail 3349 and 3341 are potential control lines depending of fire behavior.
- Evaluate FS Road 2207 from junction of FS road 2207-125 south to FS trail 3372 on west boundary of Opal Creek Wilderness as a potential control line.
- Evaluate FS road 2207-125 south along Cedar Creek as a potential control line.
- Prepare to implement structure protection plan for Jawbone Flats if fire advances outside wilderness boundary to the north.
- Little North Santiam River and Opal Creek are optimal natural barriers to slow or stop fire progression to the north if fire exceeds wilderness boundary.

##### Contingency

Includes identification of natural and landscape features that offer an opportunity for success in stopping or altering the spread of the fire if the initial plan does not entirely succeed. This plan also considers current and expected fire behavior and timing to meet suppression objectives.

- Cedar Creek, Little North Santiam River and Opal Creek provide additional natural barriers to limit fire spread to the north, east and west.
- Consider FS Road 2207 along with FS trail 3349 and 3341 as potential control lines.
- Assess contingency line opportunities along FS road 2209, 2209-201 and FS trail 3347.
- Continue to evaluate opportunities to connect road systems and trail systems south of the fire to reduce impacts to Detroit and Detroit Lake area.

##### Emergency

Emergency actions will be conducted where and when necessary for the direct protection of human life and property. Emergency planning is being conducted to establish tactics and control points to address potential threats.

- Evaluate structure protection needs and implement structure protection plans as needed if incident warrants such actions.
- Evaluate and recommend roads, trails, campgrounds and area closures as necessary.

#### 2. What is the exposure of responders for the alternatives being considered?

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The primary alternative keeps the fire at the smallest and the least exposure for responders because it is the alternative with the least amount of time spent on suppression activities. The alternate, contingency and emergency alternatives all progress the amount of time that responders spend on the incident and therefore raise their risk.

#### 3. What is the relative probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

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Each alternative that is being considered in the PACE plan (Primary, Alternate, Contingency and Emergency) is being evaluated to increase the probability of success while ensuring reduced risk to firefighters. Management action points (MAPs) have been developed to protect values at risk as the fire continues to grow. The alternative will meet incident objectives and protect values at risk.

#### 4. What alternative provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders?

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The Primary or alternative lines that are proposed provide the best balance.

#### 5. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

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This decision identifies incident objectives and requirements and a course of action that supports the strategy selected and articulates the leader's intent. Management Action Points have been established within this decision document in conjunction with the current PACE plan to identify critical thresholds that will trigger re-evaluation of current strategy. Consultation and review of these documents will help drive any alternatives. The Incident Management Team along with the Line Officer will review and analyze the alternatives with Management Action Points have been activated to ensure actions protect values at risk, provide for public and firefighter safety and keep stakeholders informed or involved as necessary.